

# Idaho Clandestine Drug (Meth) Lab Cleanup Program

Meth labs are an emerging problem, yet there currently is no official federal guidance, or regulations, on how to clean up a former meth lab. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) has put together guidance to assist local agencies, property owners, contractors and the general public in addressing contamination at former meth labs. Though often found in small amounts, meth lab contaminants may pose health risks to persons exposed to them.

Idaho Legislators passed a law ([Senate Bill 1122](#)) that gave IDHW the authority and responsibility to develop and maintain a program that lists properties that were used as clandestine drug labs. The rules ([IDAPA16.02.24](#)) were approved by the Legislature and became effective on April 11, 2006. As of this date, properties reported as clandestine drug labs will be added to the Clandestine Drug Laboratory Site Property List, which will be posted soon.

Methamphetamine (meth) is produced in illegal clandestine drug laboratories that can be located in motels; in rural areas away from the general public; and in residential areas, including houses, apartments and garages. Mobile labs have also been found in vehicles and discarded along roadsides or parking lots.

Meth labs commonly have an unusually sweet or strong odor such as ether, ammonia or auto parts cleaner. The windows of buildings are often covered, blacked out or frosted. Sporadic traffic throughout the day and night and trash containing large amounts of empty anti-freeze containers, camping fuel cans, battery parts, stained coffee filters, drain cleaners and glassware are common signs of meth labs.

IDHW has developed cleanup guidelines for property owners and contractors ([Guidelines for Cleaning up Former Methamphetamine Labs](#)). For more information, please contact Jim Faust of the Idaho Indoor Environment Program at 1-800-445-8647 or [faustj@idhw.state.id.us](mailto:faustj@idhw.state.id.us).

**Click on the links below for more information about Idaho's Clandestine Drug (Meth) Lab Cleanup Program:**

**Cleaning Up a Former Meth Lab**

[Guidelines for Cleaning Up Former Methamphetamine Labs](#)

[List of Cleanup Contractors Serving Idaho](#)

[List of Qualified Industrial Hygienists Serving Idaho](#)